



Collin County Day in Austin

SUPPORT FOR TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVE

Texas has a challenge- funding and preparing transportation infrastructure that will sustain us through the next 30 years.

Summary of need –

- \$20 to \$25 billion short to maintain current level of service
- Texas population will grow by over \$10 million citizens by 2025 with a growth rate of only half of the increase during the last decade. Could double if the same trend continues.
- The NAFTA truck volume is now beginning to visibly impact the roads of Texas.
- At least four of the major urban areas (North Texas, Greater Houston Area, San Antonio, and Austin) will be impacted by most of the growth and these areas are NOW in an emergency status to move citizens and goods both within the urban area and across Texas. These areas contribute to more than 65 percent of the state's gross product.
- TxDOT is currently able to fund only 33 percent of needed construction across Texas and with inflation increases that amount will continue to drop. A project like I635-LBJ has its costs going up by \$80,000,000 every year due to a 4 percent rate of inflation on a \$2 billion project.

Funding Options –

- Redirect sufficient funds now being diverted from transportation needs into the general fund or being used to fund other related state departments. I.E. today, some \$2.9 billion of sales tax on motor vehicles is sent to the general fund. Diversion of gas tax revenues, vehicle registration and driver license fees are being used for budgets other than transportation. I.E. DPS and the General Fund.
- Fund the Texas Mobility Fund with general revenues or fees in an amount equal to at least \$200 million over the biennium. This would give the highway needs an immediate injection to begin meeting our needs.
- Continue to explore and evaluation innovative options for financing road construction. Some of those financing mechanisms include pass through financing and comprehensive development agreements. Each of these options should have projects locally selected and future monies dedicated to the construction or improvement of local roads.